

HUS HAPPENINGS

August 2008

Sabbath-keeping key to experiencing God's love, Yaconelli tells Cascades conferees

'Silence is God's first language,' renowned retreat leader says

by Mike Ferguson, Special to Presbyterian News Service (www.pcusa.org/pcnews/)

BEND, OR — Mark Yaconelli has a hard-won reputation helping youth pastors and leaders to find new ways to disciple young people.

But late last week before a crowd of about 90 people attending Cascades Presbytery's annual summer conference, Yaconelli's focus was on a far older concept — Sabbath-making and Sabbath-taking.

Yaconelli, an author and nationally-known retreat leader, was keynote speaker for "Sabbath: A Weekend of Holy Renewal for the Overwhelmed," held July 17-20 at First Presbyterian Church here.

Sabbath, Yaconelli said, is supposed to come from God to the faithful as a gift, but "it feels more like a reckoning," because we're "driven by a spirit of anxiousness" by a culture that values work and productivity over contemplation and relationship-building.

"How do we open up to the deeper reality of God's love that continues to create the world into being?" he asked.

One way is to repent is "turning our hearts Godward," he said, naming self-reliance as the nation's greatest sin. But a church setting — what Yaconelli called "the last place we want to be vulnerable" — makes publicly-declared repentance uncomfortable for some.

A second way to go deeper in God's love is "about receiving," he said.

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"The task ahead of us is never as great as the Power behind us."

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

7 Mike Hebert
8 Grace Ford
15 Judy McLaskey
18 Lorraine Roethlisberger
19 Lois Snyder
27 Lois Wegner
28 Dot Harrelson
29 Eldie Svoboda
29 Jim Rairdin
31 Clarence Walton



ANNIVERSARIES

2 Carl & Evelyn Studt	55 years
2 Clarence & Wendy Walton	33 years
6 Denny & Joyce McGivern	20 years
12 Joe & Esther Cervený	67 years
19 Bill & Helen Faltis	67 years
23 Jim & Sue Rairdin	11 years

Ushers & Greeters



August 3rd

Eldie & Betty Svoboda
Dick & Janet Ransom

August 10th

Dot Harrelson & Eleanor Harville
Helen Anderson & Pat Jones

August 17th

Mike & JoAnne Hebert
Grace Ford & Ruby Warren

August 24th

Eldie & Betty Svoboda
Marlus Grimm & Eulalia Johnson

August 31st

Youth

"I believe that the only self I need to measure up to is the self my Maker meant me to be."
-Lewis B. Smedes











CORRIDOR RECOVERY


Volunteers are needed on an ongoing basis.
Go to www.corridorrecovery.org or call 319.540.4810 to sign up.

For help with your home call 319.540.4815.

Two Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Sites are now up and running in Cedar Rapids.

They are located at Christ Church Presbyterian and Westminster Presbyterian in Cedar Rapids. They will be hosting overnight work teams from around the state and around the country. Both churches anticipate that they will be able to house around 45-50 people.

Call the Presbytery at 800.957.4389 to help/get help.



Do you own your own home
or does it own you?

There is help:
www.iowamortgagehelp.com

A History of Hus Presbyterian Church, Part 9

By Helen Faltis

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A new church was built. New toys for the new nursery were purchased. Old toys were to be put in garbage pickup. One lady (Ruth Vosatka) took these toys home, cleaned and repaired them, and they were sold at the following rummage sale. This demonstrates the frugality of the Czech people. "Waste not, want not."

The old church had heavy, wooden banquet tables. As the new church was not paid for, the tables were moved to the new church. When the people at the old church found we took our old tables, they were very agitated. So the old tables were moved back in Bill's pick up truck to avoid hard feelings.

Church for the little children was conducted in the basement of the old church while the adult service took place up stairs. Charles Leksa built little pews for the children. Mothers directed the service and children sang songs, passed the plate for the pennies, and mothers read a Bible story. Rev. Zdenek Pauk painted a beautiful window for this little church. It now has a wonderful place in the new church in the over flow space. This service was not continued in the new church. Bill Faltis was to haul these little pews to the dump, but he saw good lumber in these pews so he hauled them to his barn near Fairfax. A kiosk was requested and Charles Leska asked for these pews, dismantled them, and built the kiosk now in the church.

I recall some of the children who worshipped in this little chapel. Tom Heabel, Roger Rompot, Sheryl Rompot, Gail Brink, David Faltis, Dennis Faltis, Ken Bontty, Justina Bontty, Dale Cervený and Joanne Cervený.

Christmas programs were held on Sunday night before Christmas. All of the Sunday school children were in the program. Our Dennis was a busy, fast, little guy. Unpredictable on what he would do next. As there were two doors out, Bill would sit near one door and I next to the other, in case Dennis got the idea to escape. As we always sat together on Sunday morning, some people thought there was a rift in our family.

The Sunday school teacher had a hard time controlling the children, so parents took turns sitting in on the class. This was worth the time and effort watching these ambitious youngsters. One man is

now an elder in a church in Wisconsin. Another is active in a church in Ely and another child is an elder in a church in Nebraska.

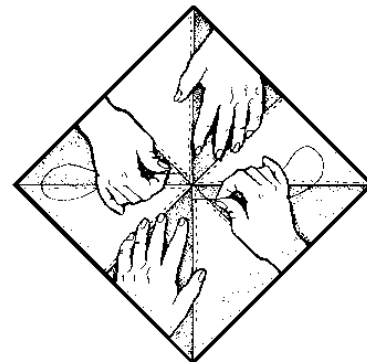
Sunday school is very important. The teachers are to be thanked for their good work. Ruth Vosatka was a teacher in Joyce's class. She recalls planting flowers and watching them grow.

The Vavra brothers grocery store gave carnival glass hair receivers to the Tabitha ladies. They used them for the flowers on the tables for the bazaar in the fall. The bazaar was no longer held and the hair receivers were sold. I bought one for \$30. The proceeds were used to buy Rev. George McDills' robe when he came to Hus church.

Butch hair cuts were fashionable. My boys wanted butch hair cuts. I teased them, "It would not look good for church." But I let them have butch cuts anyway. Rev. Pauk would stand outside before services and greet people in the summer time. As we were coming up the stairs Rev. Pauk said to my boys teasingly, "You can't do in there!" The boys immediately grabbed their heads thinking it was the butch hair cuts.

We had Rev. Joseph Bren for many years. He baptized me, confirmed me and married me. My teasing mother said, "All that is left is to bury you." God forgive me but I'm glad he's in Heaven. I'm still alive, married 66 years and 3 kids later, still here. I regret giving up our farm (to the Cedar Rapids airport) giving up my home, giving up farming with my husband Bill. But I realize I still have my faith in God thru Jesus who died for me.

We now have a little group, "Quilting Ladies." I cherish time on Tuesdays with this little group.



Sabbath-keeping key to experiencing God's love, continued from page 1

"Jesus would go to dinner and not even bring the wine ... well, one time he did," Yaconelli said with a smile.

When Archbishop Desmond Tutu agreed a few years ago to teach a seminary course in this country, Yaconelli noted that the Anglican leader insisted it be simply "a course on God's love." No exams, no reading — only students and their teacher learning together how to be more receptive to God's abiding love.

"If you leave this seminary without knowing God's love in the marrow of your bones," Yaconelli said, paraphrasing Tutu, "you know nothing."

Without a commitment to Sabbath, it's as if we're all living together in a prison that doesn't exist, Yaconelli said.

Imagine, Yaconelli said, that Jesus visits us in our cell and to announce he's unlocked the prison gates and it's time to go. But we're reluctant — after all, pot roast is on the cafeteria menu tomorrow night, and it's our turn to lead the Bible study.

But there's a shadow side to slowing down and taking stock one day a week, he said. When we give up our busyness and productivity even for just one day a week, we can be a bit overwhelmed with the feelings we get instead □ heartbreak, grief, loss and loneliness, Yaconelli warned.

"We have a heart that longs for love, but the sad reality is, most of us aren't loved very well," he said. "One reason we avoid slowing down is we have to feel what's going on in the world."

Most of us, he said, "would rather do the work of God than spend time with God."

Slowing down and being still allows us to draw nearer to God, he said, since "silence is God's first language."

Far from just a day of rest and contemplation, a part of Sabbath's invitation, he said, is "to become heartbroken."

That's not something many of us do well anymore, Yaconelli continued. While political and military leaders during World War II called on Americans to pray and fast when they knew battle plans would mean a large

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number of casualties, the message following the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks was to "keep shopping so the terrorists won't win."

Lepers like the man Jesus healed in Mark 1:40-45 are still with us today, he said. But instead of being dressed in traditional ripped clothing, today's lepers are undocumented immigrants and the mentally ill.

"We're most repulsed by people who are in need," he said. "We say to them, 'Take care of it yourself! That's a private matter!'"

It may be, he said, that the greatest gifts we can give our community are our wounds and our weaknesses.

"It's in that place," he said, "that I become lovable, transparent — and human."

Mike Ferguson, a Presbyterian elder, is a reporter for the Baker City Herald in Baker City, OR, and a frequent Presbyterian News Service contributor.

Olivet Neighborhood Mission lost everything during the recent flood. They are in the process of gutting and cleaning but everything must be replaced to be safe for the children.

What can you do?

They need for "art" supplies:

- ✦ Flat buttons
- ✦ Rick rack
- ✦ Ribbons
- ✦ 6" - 1/4 yard fabric scraps -- any texture
- ✦ Stickers
- ✦ Greeting cards & envelopes
- ✦ Old magazines: Ladies Home Journal, Woman's Day, Family Circle, any parenting or child magazine (*these are used for age-appropriate pictures*)



Also, someone has a "donated" garage to store items for displaced families as well. Things like dishes, pots & pans, silverware, kitchen utensils, bedding, towels and miscellaneous furniture items, beds, etc. These are being donated to HACAP families who lost their homes. Whatever is not absorbed by those families directly will be given to others or donated to other family members who lost their homes. Nothing will go to waste in this city of need. Contact Muriel Owen at 364.6097 or 360-5527.

NEWS REPORTER FROM PENNSYLVANIA POSTS BLOG ABOUT HER EXPERIENCE

From Out & About, July 18, 2008

Christ Church hosted their first overnight guests this past weekend from Thomas Presbyterian Church (www.thomaschurch.org) in Eighty Four, Pennsylvania. It's not a typo, the name of their town is really Eighty Four. (There is some dispute among local historians regarding the origin of the name of the community. However, the most plausible explanation as seen on a state historical marker near the post office seems to be that Eighty Four was given its name to commemorate the election of Grover Cleveland as President of the United States in 1884.)

A news reporter, Christie Campbell, from the Observer-Reporter out of Washington County, PA joined the group from Thomas Presbyterian and has written an online blog about her experience that you can read by online at Mission: Iowa (www.missioniowa.blogspot.com). Here is a brief excerpt, More than 1,000 homes were damaged in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, during the June flood, and the city sustained more than \$500 million in damage. Now the cleanup process begins. Staff writer Christie Campbell is spending July 12 -19 with seven members of Thomas Presbyterian Church in Eighty Four as they travel to Cedar Rapids on a mission trip. Campbell will be posting stories and photographs of their work on this blog site throughout the week.

To view photos of the accommodations at Christ Church along with work site photos, go to the Presbytery website (www.peia.org) and click on Photo Albums.



HUS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT: INVITE, EQUIP, AND INSPIRE

Our mission is to be a living display of God's love so that we may invite people into a life-changing relationship with Jesus Christ, equip them through knowing the Word and living in the Spirit to become authentic disciples of Jesus, and to inspire them to daring and imaginative lives of service and mission in the name of Jesus Christ, the Lord of all and the only Savior of the world.

VISION

The vision of Hus Church is to be a dynamic congregation with many kinds of people whose lives are united in total and passionate commitment to Jesus Christ as Lord, Leader, and Savior.

We will be a people who gather together in joy and in love, celebrating God's presence in our lives through worship that is attractive to seekers and believers alike, proclaiming to today's world the Good News of Jesus Christ.

We will be faithful in our study of the Bible, so we will know in our hearts and minds the truth of God's Word, and we will be guided by this truth in all we say and do.

We will be known for living in the power of the Holy Spirit, who transforms us and who sends us out into the world to speak of Christ and to serve others in His name.

We will be open and honest about our successes and failures, relying completely upon God's grace in Jesus Christ to sustain us in our relationships with each other and with those who are struggling in the world around us.

We will be the living body of Christ reaching out to offer ourselves in service to others in Christ's name, and we will demonstrate our trust in God by doing God's will in the world through daring, imaginative, and innovative mission.

Core Values

- ✠ Proclaiming Christ In The World
- ✠ Living Life United In Christ
- ✠ Celebrating God's Love
- ✠ Living And Growing In Word And Spirit
- ✠ Serving Faithfully In Christ's Name
- ✠ Submitting Our Resources To The Reign Of God

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY AND PROCEDURES

After several months of review and discussion by Elders and members of the congregation and the Session of Hus Presbyterian Church unanimously approved the Child Protection Policy and Procedures at their July 15th Session meeting.

Purpose

We recognize that abuse of children and youth occurs often in our society and can occur in our church. We are also aware that allegations and incidents of abuse can be devastating to the accuser, accused, their families and the congregation.

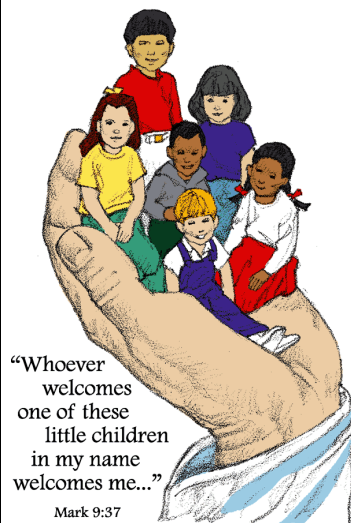
We affirm that children and youth are a gift from God and that the future of the church rests with them. We further affirm that it is our obligation to protect their physical, mental, emotional and spiritual well-being.

The objectives of the Child Protection Policy and Procedures are to:

- Provide a safe, secure and nurturing environment for our children and youth,
- Protect volunteers and paid staff from false allegations of abuse,
- Provide prompt and compassionate response to allegations of abuse,
- Protect the church from unfavorable publicity and legal action.

Copies will soon be available in the narthex.

Jesus clearly affirmed the great importance of children when he took a little child in his arms and said in Mark 9:37, *"Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."* And again when He said in Mark 10:14, *"Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs."*





AUGUST 2008

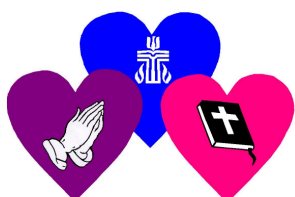
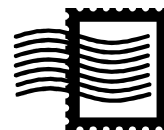
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Men's Breakfast - 8 AM at Wilson Ave. Hy-Vee
3 Worship Service - 9:30 AM Karen McCaa teaching Youth serving Sunday Evening Meal 4 - 6 PM	4 Vacation Bible School - 5:30 - 8 PM Youth Ministry Prayer - 7 PM	5 Quilter's - 8:30 AM Vacation Bible School - 5:30 - 8 PM	6 Vacation Bible School - 5:30 - 8 PM Worship Team - 7 PM	7 Vacation Bible School - 5:30 - 8 PM	8 Vacation Bible School - 5:30 - 7 PM	9 HRL - Reg. - 9:30 AM Racing at 10 AM Worship Team at Christ Church Neighborhood Block Party 4 - 7 PM
10 Worship Service - 9:30 AM Pastor Daniel Hurt teaching	11 Youth Ministry Prayer - 7 PM	12 Quilter's - 8:30 AM	13 Worship Team - 7 PM	14	15	16
17 Worship Service - 9:30 AM Pastor Ken Graham teaching	18 Youth Ministry Prayer - 7 PM	19 Men's Breakfast - 7:30 AM at Wilson Ave. Hy-Vee Quilter's - 8:30 AM Session Meeting - 7 PM	20 First Day of School * Youth Group - 5:45 PM Worship Team - 7 PM	21 Rummage, Bake and Craft Sale - 8 AM - 4:30 PM	22 Rummage, Bake and Craft Sale - 8 AM - Noon	23
24 Worship Service - 9:30 AM Rev. Michael Langer teaching	25 Youth Ministry Prayer - 7 PM	26 First Day of School * Quilter's - 8:30 AM Youth Ministry Meeting - 8 PM	27 Wed. Meal- 5:15 PM Youth Group - 5:45 PM Choir- 7 PM Worship Team - 8:30 PM	28 Lunch Bunch at Bishops- 11:30 AM	29	30
31 Worship in the Park - 10:00 AM Terry Van Wyk teaching	* First Day of School: 8/20 (Clear Creek-Amara, College Community, Linn-Mar, and Marion) 8/26 (Cedar Rapids) Sunday school will begin on September 7th!					



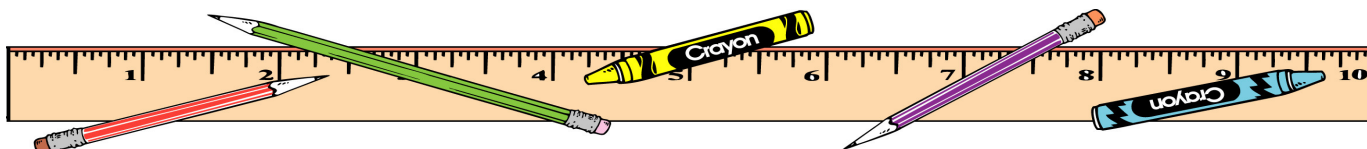
Hus Presbyterian Church

2808 Schaeffer Drive SW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



August 2008
Hus Happenings
www.huschurch.org



Hus Rummage, Bake and Craft Sale

August 21st and 22nd



Hus Worship Team

**Christ Church
Presbyterian Block Party**

**Free food, fun and music from
the Hus Worship Team**

**Saturday, August 9th
4 – 7 PM**

